

§ 288k. Attorney General relieved of responsibility

(a) Upon receipt of written notice that the Counsel has undertaken, pursuant to section 288c(a) of this title, to perform any representational service with respect to any designated party in any action or proceeding pending or to be instituted, the Attorney General shall—

- (1) be relieved of any responsibility with respect to such representational service;
- (2) have no authority to perform such service in such action or proceeding except at the request or with the approval of the Senate; and
- (3) transfer all materials relevant to the representation authorized under section 288c(a) of this title to the Counsel, except that nothing in this subsection shall limit any right of the Attorney General under existing law to intervene or appear as *amicus curiae* in such action or proceeding.

(b) The Attorney General shall notify the Counsel with respect to any proceeding in which the United States is a party of any determination by the Attorney General or Solicitor General not to appeal any court decision affecting the constitutionality of an Act or joint resolution of Congress within such time as will enable the Senate to direct the Counsel to intervene as a party in such proceeding pursuant to section 288e of this title.

(Pub. L. 95-521, title VII, §712, Oct. 26, 1978, 92 Stat. 1883.)

§ 288l. Procedural provisions

(a) Intervention or appearance

Permission to intervene as a party or to appear as *amicus curiae* under section 288e of this title shall be of right and may be denied by a court only upon an express finding that such intervention or appearance is untimely and would significantly delay the pending action or that standing to intervene has not been established under section 2 of article III of the Constitution of the United States.

(b) Compliance with admission requirements

The Counsel, the Deputy Counsel, or any designated Assistant Counsel or counsel specially retained by the Office shall be entitled, for the purpose of performing his functions under this chapter, to enter an appearance in any proceeding before any court of the United States or of a State or political subdivision thereof without compliance with any requirement for admission to practice before such court, except that the authorization conferred by this subsection shall not apply with respect to the admission of any such person to practice before the United States Supreme Court.

(c) Standing to sue; jurisdiction

Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to confer standing on any party seeking to bring, or jurisdiction on any court with respect to, any civil or criminal action against Congress, either House of Congress, a Member of Congress, a committee or subcommittee of a House of Congress, any office or agency of Congress, or any officer or employee of a House of Congress or any office or agency of Congress.

(Pub. L. 95-521, title VII, §713, Oct. 26, 1978, 92 Stat. 1883.)

§ 288m. Contingent fund

The expenses of the Office shall be paid from the contingent fund of the Senate in accordance with section 68 of this title, and upon vouchers approved by the Counsel.

(Pub. L. 95-521, title VII, §716, Oct. 26, 1978, 92 Stat. 1885.)

§ 288n. Travel and related expenses

Funds expended by the Senate Legal Counsel for travel and related expenses shall be subject to the same regulations and limitations (insofar as they are applicable) as those which the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration prescribes for application to travel and related expenses for which payment is authorized to be made from the contingent fund of the Senate.

(Pub. L. 98-51, title I, §106, July 14, 1983, 97 Stat. 267.)

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the Congressional Operations Appropriation Act, 1984, which is title I of the Legislative Branch Appropriation Act, 1984, and not as part of title VII of Pub. L. 95-521 which in part comprises this chapter.

Section, as it relates to funds expended by the Legislative Counsel of the Senate, is classified to section 276b of this title.

CHAPTER 10—CLASSIFICATION OF EMPLOYEES OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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§ 291. Congressional declaration of purpose

It is the purpose of this chapter to provide a classification system for the equitable establishment and adjustment of rates of compensation for, and for the efficient utilization of personnel in, certain positions under the House of Representatives to which this chapter applies, through—

(1) the creation and maintenance of orderly and equitable compensation relationships for such positions—

- (A) in accordance with the principle of equal pay for substantially equal work, and
- (B) with due regard to (i) differences in the levels of difficulty, responsibility, and qualification requirements of the work, (ii) the

kind of work performed, (iii) satisfactory performance, and (iv) length of service;

(2) the application of appropriate position standards and position descriptions for such positions; and

(3) the adoption of organization and position titles in the House which accurately reflect the respective functions, duties, and responsibilities of those organizations and positions in the House to which this chapter applies.

(Pub. L. 88-652, §2, Oct. 13, 1964, 78 Stat. 1079.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in text, was in the original “this Act”, meaning Pub. L. 88-652, Oct. 13, 1964, 78 Stat. 1079, known as the House Employees Position Classification Act, which enacted this chapter and amended sections 88c and 123b of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out below and Tables.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section 17 of Pub. L. 88-652 provided that: “This Act [enacting this chapter and amending sections 88c and 123b of this title] shall become effective on January 1, 1965.”

SHORT TITLE

Section 1 of Pub. L. 88-652 provided that: “This Act [enacting this chapter and amending sections 88c and 123b of this title] may be cited as the ‘House Employees Position Classification Act’.”

SAVINGS PROVISION

Section 15 of Pub. L. 88-652 provided that:

“(a) Notwithstanding any provision of this Act [this chapter], the aggregate (gross) rate of compensation of any employee immediately prior to the effective date of this Act [Jan. 1, 1965] shall not be reduced by reason of the enactment of this Act.

“(b) For the purposes of applicable law relating to the payment to any individual of compensation from more than one civilian office or position, each employee of the House to whom this Act applies who, immediately prior to the effective date of this Act—

“(1) is receiving basic compensation from more than one civilian office or position and

“(2) is in compliance with such law shall be held and considered to be in compliance with such law on and after such effective date, notwithstanding the enactment of this Act, so long as such employee continues to receive, without break in service of more than thirty days, the same or lower rate of basic compensation in a position to which this Act does not apply.”

§ 292. Positions affected

This chapter shall apply to—

(1) all positions under the Clerk, the Sergeant at Arms, the Chief Administrative Officer, and the Inspector General of the House of Representatives, except the positions of telephone operator and positions on the United States Capitol Police force;

(2) the position of minority pair clerk in the House;

(3) all positions under the House Recording Studio; and

(4) all positions under the House Radio and Television Correspondents’ Gallery and the House Periodical Press Gallery.

(Pub. L. 88-652, §3, Oct. 13, 1964, 78 Stat. 1079; Pub. L. 104-53, title I, §108(1), Nov. 19, 1995, 109 Stat. 522.)

AMENDMENTS

1995—Par. (1). Pub. L. 104-53 substituted “Chief Administrative Officer, and the Inspector General” for “Doorkeeper, and the Postmaster.”.

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Certain functions of Recording Studio and Officers of House of Representatives transferred to Director of Non-legislative and Financial Services by section 7 of House Resolution No. 423, One Hundred Second Congress, Apr. 9, 1992. Director of Non-legislative and Financial Services replaced by Chief Administrative Officer of House of Representatives by House Resolution No. 6, One Hundred Fourth Congress, Jan. 4, 1995.

§ 293. Compensation schedules

(a)(1) The Committee on House Oversight of the House of Representatives (hereinafter referred to as the “committee”) shall establish and maintain, and, from time to time, may revise, for positions to which this chapter applies (other than positions within the purview of subsection (b) of this section the compensation for which is fixed and adjusted from time to time in accordance with prevailing rates), a compensation schedule of per annum rates, which shall be known as the “House Employees Schedule” and for which the symbol shall be “HS”, subject to the following provisions:

(A) Such schedule shall be composed of such number of compensation levels as the committee deems appropriate.

(B) Each compensation level shall consist of twelve compensation steps.

(C) The per annum rate of compensation for each compensation step of each compensation level shall be in such amount as the committee deems appropriate, except that the per annum rate of compensation for the maximum compensation step of the highest compensation level shall not exceed the maximum rate of compensation authorized by chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of title 5.

(2) The rates of compensation for such positions shall be in accordance with such schedule.

(b) The committee shall establish and maintain, and, from time to time, may revise, for positions under the Clerk, the Sergeant at Arms, the Chief Administrative Officer, and the Inspector General of the House of Representatives, the compensation for which, in the judgment of the committee, should be fixed and adjusted from time to time in accordance with prevailing rates, a compensation schedule providing for per annum or per hour rates, or both, established in accordance with prevailing rates and consisting of such number of compensation levels and steps as the committee deems appropriate, which shall be known as the “House Wage Schedule” and for which the symbol shall be “HWS”. The rates of compensation for such positions shall be in accordance with such schedule.

(Pub. L. 88-652, §4, Oct. 13, 1964, 78 Stat. 1079; Pub. L. 104-53, title I, §108(2), Nov. 19, 1995, 109 Stat. 522; Pub. L. 104-186, title II, §209(1), Aug. 20, 1996, 110 Stat. 1743.)

AMENDMENTS

1996—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 104-186 substituted “House Oversight” for “House Administration”.

1995—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 104-53 substituted “Chief Administrative Officer, and the Inspector General” for “Doorkeeper, and the Postmaster.”.

CHANGE OF NAME

Committee on House Oversight of House of Representatives changed to Committee on House Administration of House of Representatives by House Resolution No. 5, One Hundred Sixth Congress, Jan. 6, 1999.

INCREASES IN COMPENSATION

Increases in compensation for House officers and employees under authority of Federal Salary Act of 1967 (Pub. L. 90-206), Federal Pay Comparability Act of 1970 (Pub. L. 91-656), and Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 1988 (Pub. L. 100-202), see sections 60a-2 and 60a-2a of this title, and Salary Directives of Speaker of the House, set out as notes under those sections.

§§ 293a to 293c. Omitted

Section 293a, Pub. L. 89-301, §11(c), Oct. 29, 1965, 79 Stat. 1120, required compensation of employees of House of Representatives whose compensation is fixed under this chapter to be increased by amounts equal to increases provided by section 60e-12(a) of this title.

Section 293b, Pub. L. 89-504, title III, §302(c), July 18, 1966, 80 Stat. 295, required compensation of employees of House of Representatives whose compensation is fixed under this chapter to be increased by amounts equal to increases provided by section 60e-13(a) of this title.

Section 293c, Pub. L. 90-206, title II, §214(c), Dec. 16, 1967, 81 Stat. 636, required compensation of employees of House of Representatives whose compensation is fixed under this chapter to be increased by amounts equal to increases provided by section 60e-14(a) of this title.

§ 294. Position standards and descriptions

(a)(1) It shall be the duty of the committee to prescribe, revise, and (on a current basis) maintain position standards which shall apply to positions (in existence on, or established after, January 1, 1965) under the House of Representatives to which this chapter applies.

(2) The position standards shall—

(A) provide for the separation of such positions into appropriate classes for pay and personnel purposes on the basis of reasonable similarity with respect to types of positions, qualification requirements of positions, and levels of difficulty and responsibility of work, and

(B) govern the placement of such positions in their respective appropriate compensation levels of the appropriate compensation schedule.

(b)(1) Subject to review and approval by the committee, the Clerk, the Sergeant at Arms, the Chief Administrative Officer, and the Inspector General of the House of Representatives, shall prepare, revise, and (on a current basis) maintain, at such times and in such form as the committee deems appropriate, position descriptions of the respective positions (in existence on, or established after, January 1, 1965) under the House of Representatives to which this chapter applies which are under their respective jurisdictions, including—

(A) with respect to the Clerk, positions under the House Recording Studio,

(B) with respect to the Sergeant at Arms, the position of minority pair clerk in the House, and

(C) with respect to the Chief Administrative Officer, positions under the House Radio and Television Correspondents' Gallery and the House Periodical Press Gallery.

(2) The position descriptions shall—

(A) describe in detail the actual duties, responsibilities, and qualification requirements of the work of each of such positions,

(B) provide a position title for such position which accurately reflects such duties and responsibilities, and

(C) govern the placement of such position in its appropriate class.

(c) The Clerk, the Sergeant at Arms, the Chief Administrative Officer, and the Inspector General of the House of Representatives, shall transmit to the committee, at such times and in such form as the committee deems appropriate, all position descriptions required by subsection (b) of this section to be prepared, provided, and currently maintained by them, together with such other pertinent information as the committee may require, in order that the committee shall have, at all times, current information with respect to such position descriptions, the positions to which such descriptions apply, and related personnel matters within the purview of this chapter. Such information so transmitted shall be kept on file in the committee.

(d) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, the committee shall have authority, which may be exercised at any time in its discretion, to—

(1) conduct surveys and studies of all organization units, and the positions therein, to which this chapter applies;

(2) ascertain on a current basis the facts with respect to the duties, responsibilities, and qualification requirements of any position to which this chapter applies;

(3) prepare and revise the position description of any such position;

(4) place any such position in its appropriate class and compensation level;

(5) decide whether any such position is in its appropriate class and compensation level;

(6) change any such position from one class or compensation level to any other class or compensation level whenever the facts warrant; and

(7) prescribe such organization and position titles as may be appropriate to carry out the purposes of this chapter.

All such actions of the committee shall be binding on the House officer and organization unit concerned and shall be the basis for payment of compensation and for other personnel benefits and transactions until otherwise changed by the committee.

(Pub. L. 88-652, §5, Oct. 13, 1964, 78 Stat. 1080; Pub. L. 104-53, title I, §108(3), (4), Nov. 19, 1995, 109 Stat. 522; Pub. L. 104-186, title II, §209(2), Aug. 20, 1996, 110 Stat. 1743.)

AMENDMENTS

1996—Subsec. (b)(1)(C). Pub. L. 104-186 substituted “Chief Administrative Officer” for “Doorkeeper”.

1995—Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 104-53 substituted “Chief Administrative Officer, and the Inspector General” for “Doorkeeper, and the Postmaster”.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 104-53 substituted “Chief Administrative Officer, and the Inspector General” for “Doorkeeper, and the Postmaster”.

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Certain functions of Officers of House of Representatives transferred to Director of Non-legislative and Fi-

nancial Services by section 7 of House Resolution No. 423, One Hundred Second Congress, Apr. 9, 1992. Director of Non-legislative and Financial Services replaced by Chief Administrative Officer of House of Representatives by House Resolution No. 6, One Hundred Fourth Congress, Jan. 4, 1995.

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in section 295 of this title.

§ 295. Placement of positions in compensation schedules

The committee shall place each position (in existence on, or established after, January 1, 1965) under the House of Representatives to which this chapter applies in its appropriate class, and in its appropriate compensation level of the appropriate compensation schedule, in accordance with the position standards and position descriptions provided for in section 294 of this title. The committee is authorized, when circumstances so warrant, to change any such position from one class or compensation level to another class or compensation level. All actions of the committee under this section shall be binding on the House officer and organization unit concerned and shall be the basis for payment of compensation and for other personnel benefits and transactions until otherwise changed by the committee.

(Pub. L. 88-652, § 6, Oct. 13, 1964, 78 Stat. 1081.)

§ 296. Step increases; waiting periods; service in Armed Forces; automatic advancement

(a) Each employee in a compensation level of the House Employees Schedule (HS), who has not attained the highest schedule rate of compensation for the compensation level (HS level) in which his position is placed, shall be advanced successively to the next higher step of such HS level, as follows:

(1) to steps 2, 3, and 4, respectively—at the beginning of the first pay period following the completion, without break in service of more than thirty months, of one year of satisfactory service in the next lower step;

(2) to steps 5, 6, and 7, respectively—at the beginning of the first pay period following the completion, without break in service of more than thirty months, of two years of satisfactory service in the next lower step;

(3) to steps 8, 9, and 10, respectively—at the beginning of the first pay period following the completion, without break in service of more than thirty months, of three years of satisfactory service in the next lower step; and

(4) to steps 11 and 12, respectively—at the beginning of the first pay period following the completion, without break in service of more than thirty months, of five years of satisfactory service in the next lower step.

(b) The receipt of an increase in compensation during any of the waiting periods of service specified in subsection (a) of this section shall cause a new full waiting period of service to commence for further step increases under such subsection.

(c) Any increase in compensation granted by law, or granted by reason of an increase made by the committee in the rates of compensation of

the House Employees Schedule, to employees within the purview of subsection (a) of this section shall not be held or considered to be an increase in compensation for the purposes of subsection (b) of this section.

(d) The benefit of successive step increases under subsection (a) of this section shall be preserved, under regulations prescribed by the committee, for employees whose continuous service is interrupted by service in the Armed Forces of the United States.

(e) The committee shall establish and maintain, and, from time to time, may revise, a system of automatic advancement, by successive step increases in compensation, on the basis of satisfactory service performed, without break in service of more than thirty months, for employees subject to the House Wage Schedule (HWS). In the operation of such system of step increases the committee may prescribe regulations to the effect that—

(1) the receipt of an increase in compensation during any of the waiting periods of service required for advancement by step increases under such system shall cause a new full waiting period of service to commence for further step increases under such system;

(2) any increase in compensation granted by law, or granted by reason of an increase made by the committee in the rates of compensation of the House Wage Schedule, to employees within the purview of such system of step increases shall not be held or considered to be an increase in compensation for the purposes of subparagraph (1) of this subsection; and

(3) the benefit of successive step increases under such system of step increases shall be preserved, under regulations prescribed by the committee, for employees whose continuous service is interrupted by service in the Armed Forces of the United States.

(Pub. L. 88-652, § 7, Oct. 13, 1964, 78 Stat. 1081.)

§ 297. Appointments and reclassifications to higher compensation levels

(a) Each employee in a compensation level of the House Employees Schedule (HS), who is appointed to a position in a higher compensation level of such schedule, or whose position is placed in a higher compensation level of such schedule pursuant to a reclassification of such position, shall be paid compensation in such higher compensation level, in accordance with the following provisions, whichever is first applicable in the following numerical order of precedence:

(1) at the rate of the lowest step for which the rate of compensation equals the rate of compensation for that step, in the compensation level from which he is appointed, which is two steps above the step in such level which he had attained immediately prior to such appointment;

(2) at the rate of the lowest step for which the rate of compensation exceeds, by not less than two steps of the compensation level from which he is appointed, his rate of compensation immediately prior to such appointment; or

(3) at the rate of the highest step of such higher compensation level, or at his rate of

compensation immediately prior to such appointment, whichever rate is the higher.

(b) The committee may provide by regulations for the payment of compensation, at an appropriate compensation step determined in accordance with such regulations, to each employee subject to the House Wage Schedule (HWS) who is appointed to a position in a higher compensation level of such schedule or whose position is placed in a higher compensation level of such schedule pursuant to a reclassification of such position.

(Pub. L. 88-652, § 8, Oct. 13, 1964, 78 Stat. 1082.)

§ 298. Reductions in compensation level

Each employee in a position of a compensation level of the House Employees Schedule (HS) or the House Wage Schedule (HWS), whose employment in such position and level is terminated and who is reemployed, with or without break in service, in a position in a lower compensation level (HS level or HWS level) of such schedule, or whose position is placed in a lower compensation level of such schedule pursuant to a reclassification of such position, shall be placed by the committee in such step of such lower compensation level as the committee deems appropriate.

(Pub. L. 88-652, § 9, Oct. 13, 1964, 78 Stat. 1083.)

§ 299. Appointments; compensation level

Except as otherwise provided by this chapter, each individual appointed to a position subject to the House Employees Schedule (HS) or the House Wage Schedule (HWS) shall be placed in the minimum step of the appropriate compensation level (HS level or HWS level) of such schedule.

(Pub. L. 88-652, § 10, Oct. 13, 1964, 78 Stat. 1083.)

§ 300. Establishment of positions; payment from applicable accounts

The committee may authorize the establishment of additional positions of the kind to which this chapter applies, on a permanent basis or on a temporary basis of not to exceed six months' duration, whenever, in the judgment of the committee, such action is warranted in the interests of the orderly and efficient operation of the House of Representatives. The compensation of each such position may be paid out of the applicable accounts of the House of Representatives until otherwise provided by law. An additional position of the kind to which this chapter applies shall not be established without authorization of the committee.

(Pub. L. 88-652, § 11, Oct. 13, 1964, 78 Stat. 1083; Pub. L. 104-186, title II, § 209(3), Aug. 20, 1996, 110 Stat. 1743.)

AMENDMENTS

1996—Pub. L. 104-186 substituted “applicable accounts” for “contingent fund”.

§ 301. Preservation of existing appointing authorities

This chapter shall not be held or considered to change or otherwise affect—

(1) any authority to establish positions under the House of Representatives which are not within the purview of this chapter, or

(2) any authority to make appointments to positions under the House of Representatives, irrespective of whether such positions are within the purview of this chapter.

(Pub. L. 88-652, § 12, Oct. 13, 1964, 78 Stat. 1083.)

§ 302. Regulations

The committee is authorized to prescribe such regulations as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter.

(Pub. L. 88-652, § 13, Oct. 13, 1964, 78 Stat. 1084.)

§ 303. Dual compensation

For the purposes of applicable law relating to the payment to any employee subject to the House Employees Schedule or the House Wage Schedule of compensation from more than one civilian office or position, the rate of basic compensation of each employee subject to any such schedule shall be held and considered to be that rate which, when increased by additional compensation then currently authorized by law for House employees generally, equals or most nearly equals the per annum rate of compensation of such employee under such schedule.

(Pub. L. 88-652, § 14, Oct. 13, 1964, 78 Stat. 1084.)

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in section 60e-13 of this title.

CHAPTER 10A—PAYROLL ADMINISTRATION IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sec.

- 331. Single per annum gross rates of pay for employees.
- 332. Repealed.
- 333. Single per annum gross rates of allowances for personal services in offices of Speaker, Leaders, and Whips.
- 333a. Limits on uses of funds provided under section 333.
- 334. Repealed.
- 335. Obsolete references in existing law to basic pay rates.
- 336. Saving provision.

§ 331. Single per annum gross rates of pay for employees

Whenever the rate of pay of an employee whose pay is disbursed by the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives is fixed or adjusted on or after the effective date of this section, that rate, as so fixed or adjusted, shall be a single per annum gross rate.

(Pub. L. 91-510, title IV, § 471, Oct. 26, 1970, 84 Stat. 1193; Pub. L. 104-186, title II, § 210(1), Aug. 20, 1996, 110 Stat. 1743.)

AMENDMENTS

1996—Pub. L. 104-186 substituted “Chief Administrative Officer” for “Clerk”.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Chapter effective immediately prior to noon on Jan. 3, 1971, see section 601(1) of Pub. L. 91-510, set out as an Effective Date of 1970 Amendment note under section 72a of this title.

INCONSISTENT PROVISIONS

Section 477(b) of Pub. L. 91-510 provided that: “All provisions of law inconsistent with any provision of